

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior claims presented in the application.

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently amended) A CHO cell deprived of a portion of the gene encoding for CMP-N-acetylneuraminc acid hydroxylase (CMAH) ~~according to Claim 15~~ wherein said portion comprises ~~is within~~ encoding for the sequence including and disposed between bases 787 and 1598 of cDNA encoding for CMAH.
19. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 1.
20. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 deprived of the portion of the gene encoding for the sequence of CMAH including and disposed between amino-acid 262 and amino-acid 532.
21. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion encodes ~~has~~ the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 2.
22. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein the NCBI accession number of the cDNA is AJ242835.
23. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, wherein the portion of the gene encoding for CMAH is absent from both alleles.

24. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, wherein the portion eliminated has been replaced by at least one DNA sequence encoding for resistance to an antibiotic.
25. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 24, wherein the antibiotic is zeocine.
26. (Currently amended) A method for expressing a heterologous recombinant protein comprising culturing CHO cells according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, said cells having been transformed to express said heterologous recombinant protein.
27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said protein is at least one recombinant glycoconjugate.
- 28-40. (Cancelled)